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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant of: Vischer & Aeschilmann

Serial No.: 10/033,426

Group Art Unit: to be assigned

Filed: 12/27/01

Examiner: to be assigned

For: METHOD FOR PROCESSING A  
NUCLEIC ACID SAMPLE BY  
SWINGING A SEGMENT OF A  
CARTRIDGE WALL, A SYSTEM  
AND A CARTRIDGE FOR  
PERFORMING SUCH A  
METHOD

Attorney Docket No.: 1803-325-999

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.115**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with Rule 115 of the Rules of Practice, please enter the following amendment prior to examination of the above-captioned application. Filed herewith is Exhibit A.

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**  
**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

A marked up version of the following amended paragraph is attached as Exhibit A.

Please amend the specification as follows:

At page 3, line 24, please replace the paragraph beginning "According to a first aspect of the invention" with the following paragraph:

According to a first aspect of the invention the above aim is achieved with a method for processing a nucleic acid sample contained in a liquid, said method comprising (a) introducing said sample into a chamber of a cartridge which contains a chip shaped carrier